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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 688

By Black

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Montie Davis, former
Mayor of Hendersonville.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the death of Montie Davis; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Davis was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Davis formerly served with acumen and alacrity as Mayor of Hendersonville, in which position he earned the respect of his fellow government officials and constituents alike for the exemplary quality of his service; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of Isaac Litton High School in Nashville, he earned a bachelor's degree in physics from Vanderbilt University and master's and doctoral degrees from the University of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Montie Davis knew the tremendous value of education and strove to share his knowledge with others, serving as a professor at Volunteer State Community College and at Vanderbilt University; and

WHEREAS, his unsurpassed expertise was also in high demand by numerous institutions, and he served as a technical consultant to Dupont, R.R. Donnelley and Sons Printing Co., and the United States Air Force; and

WHEREAS, throughout his life, Montie Davis was committed to promoting the welfare of his community and his fellow citizens; he was involved in numerous civic organizations, including the Hendersonville Area Chamber of Commerce, the Hendersonville Arts Council, Friends of Rock Castle, the Evening Sertoma Club, Big Brothers of Hendersonville, and the Tsuru-Hendersonville Friendship Steering Committee; and

WHEREAS, known throughout the community for his leadership ability, he served as a Boy Scout Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmaster and as a member of the Hendersonville Parks Board; and

WHEREAS, a true visionary, Mr. Davis was instrumental in the development of Country Hills Golf Course and in bringing the YMCA to Hendersonville in the early 1970s; and

WHEREAS, in 1986, Montie Davis was elected to the Board of Mayor and Aldermen from Ward 4; he served two terms in that position, earning the admiration and respect of the Board and of his community; and

WHEREAS, while an Alderman, he was a leader among leaders and served as City Treasurer and Chairman of the Finance Committee; and

WHEREAS, in 1988, Montie Davis was elected Mayor of Hendersonville, having run on a platform of "harmony in Hendersonville"; during his term in office, he helped to unite the city after a turbulent era; and

WHEREAS, he earned high praise from his fellow public servants, such as Alderman Bill Portman who said of Mr. Davis, "everything he did, he did with a lot of class. I never heard him raise his voice. He dealt with people where they were. He dealt with them with respect...even if he didn't agree with them, he was always willing to listen to anybody's opinion."; and

WHEREAS, a devout Christian, Mr. Davis was an active member of the Hendersonville First United Methodist Church, where he was an inspiration to many; and

WHEREAS, Montie Davis was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, he enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife, Janice, and was the proud and dedicated father of Montie Grant Davis, Jr. and Monica Davis; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Davis leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we honor the memory of Montie Davis, former Mayor of Hendersonville, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Davis.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.